

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, GW, SCUL, XG

SUBJECT: WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH (WAY)

REFERENCE: (A) BONN 5654; (B) BONN 5502

1. SUMMARY. ATTITUDES OF GERMAN YOUTH LEADERS TOWARD WAY (REFTELS) AND QUESTIONS OF WAY REGIONALIZATION AND OF WAY'S FUTURE WERE CENTRAL THEMES OF SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH WAY AND US YOUTH COUNCIL LEADERS IN PAST TEN DAYS. END SUMMARY.

2. CU AND EUR REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH WAY SECRETARY GENERAL CARLOS CARRASCO DURING HIS STOPOVER FROM VENEZUELA TO BRUSSELS. IN FRANK SESSION CARRASCO FIELDDED WIDE RANGE OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING PRESENT DIFFICULTIES HIS ORGANIZATION FACES AND CONCLUDED ON OPTIMISTIC NOTE THAT WAY HAD CONTINUING ROLE IN FUTURE AND GOOD POSSIBILITIES OF FULFILLING IT.

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3. GERMAN ATTITUDES. CARRASCO CONFIDED THAT GERMAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNK) SEEMED INTENT ON KILLING WAY. THIS WAS LARGELY WORK OF FORMER SPD YOUTH LEADER, HANS PETER WEBER, AND UNSPECIFIED "TWO OR THREE OTHERS". HE CITED TWO RECENT EXAMPLES: (A) WEBER WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR TURNING DOWN BY EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION (EYF) OF WAY'S REQUEST FOR FUND-

ING OF AN AFRICAN LIBERATION SEMINAR, A PROJECT THAT EYF'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, A NORWEGIAN, HAD EARLIER ENDORSED ENTHUSIASTICALLY; WEBER HAD INFLUENCED NEGATIVE VOTE LARGELY BY REFERENCE TO DOMINATION OF WAY BUDGET BY LARGE AID POPULATION EDUCATION GRANT; (B) CARRASCO ALSO SAW WEBER'S HAND IN THE FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION'S REVERSAL OF ITS PLAN TO FUND TWO WAY PROJECTS. CARRASCO SAID THAT THE DNK EFFECTIVELY CONTROLS THE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES (CENCY) THROUGH THEIR DISPROPORTIONATELY LARGE SHARE OF CENCY'S BUDGET. (IN A SEPARATE THREE-WAY CONVERSATION BETWEEN CARRASCO, USYC PRESIDENT DAVID DORN, AND BRITISH YOUTH COUNCIL LEADER ALAN ROBERTSHAW, IT WAS INDICATED THAT IRISH YOUTH LEADER RICHARD O'TOOLE SHARED WEBER'S STRONG OPPOSITION TO CONTINUED CENCY MEMBERSHIP IN WAY.)

4. ONE SPECULATIVE POINT WHICH EMERGED FROM THESE DISCUSSIONS, BY WAY OF EXPLANATION OF THE GERMAN CONFLICT WITH CARRASCO, CONCERNS HIS ELECTION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GERMAN CANDIDATE FOR CARRASCO'S JOB WAS DEFEATED BY A KIND OF THIRD WORLD COALITION. THIS MIGHT EXPLAIN GERMAN ACCUSATIONS OF POOR COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DRIVE FOR REGIONAL, I.E. EUROPEAN, AUTONOMY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE ARE PUZZLED BY PROVINCIALISM OF THIS VIEW AND APPARENT FAILURE TO REALIZE THAT EUROPEAN INTERESTS EXTEND FAR BEYOND IMMEDIATE NATIONAL BOUNDARIES.

5. DR. UWE JANSSEN, FORMER SPD EXPERT ON YOUTH AFFAIRS AND THE PREDECESSOR OF HANS PETER WEBER, WHILE IN WASHINGTON, TOLD A DEPARTMENT OFFICER THAT IN HIS OPINION THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS WOULD NOT NOW AT THIS TIME ATTEMPT TO KILL WAY. JANSSEN ARGUED THAT THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS ARE UNDER VERY HEAVY PRESSURE FROM THE SPD AND THAT THEY WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT NOW WISH TO OPEN UP A NEW FRONT. THUS, THEY WOULD NOT PUSH FOR WAY'S DEMISE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

6. WAY REGIONALIZATION. CARRASCO SHOWED RATHER FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE ON ISSUE OF GRANTING GREATER AUTONOMY TO REGIONAL AFFILIATES OF WAY, STATING THAT THIS QUESTION WOULD BE TAKEN UP IN WAY ASSEMBLY IN AUGUST 1975 RATHER THAN IMPOSED ON REGIONS NOW. IN THIS REGARD, WAY SECRETARIAT IS

NOW SEEKING VIEWS OF REGIONAL AFFILIATES. CARRASCO CONTINUES TO QUESTION ADVISABILITY OF REGIONALIZATION PROPOSALS, FORESEEING DUPLICATION OF COSTS, AND SQUABBLES IN DETERMINING REGIONAL LEADERS AND HEADQUARTERS SITES. HE ADDED THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS ENTAILED WILL BE HARD TO RAISE AND THAT DANGER EXISTED THAT A FINANCIALLY POWERFUL NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL SUCH AS THE GERMAN ONE MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXERCISE UNHEALTHY DEGREE OF CONTROL OF THE REGIONAL

ORGANIZATION. DESPITE THESE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS, CARRASCO SAID HE WAS OPEN TO SOME FORM OF GREATER REGIONAL AUTONOMY. CARRASCO DESCRIBED THE IRISH AND GERMAN YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE STRONGEST PROTAGONISTS FOR REGIONALIZATION, AND THE BRITISH YOUTH COUNCIL AS THE STRONGEST PROPONENT OF MAINTAINING WAY IN ITS PRESENT FORM WITH DENMARK AND AUSTRIA NOT FAR BEHIND BUT WITH MORE RESERVATIONS. FYI. IT WAS EVIDENT FROM SEPARATE CONVERSATION THAT USYC LEADER DAVID DORN MUCH OPPOSED TO REGIONALIZATION END FYI.

7. FYI. AID CONTRACT TO WAY FOR POPULATION AWARENESS PROJECTS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES WILL BE SHARPLY CUT THIS YEAR BY FIFTY PERCENT. STRONG POSSIBILITY THEY WILL BE REDUCED COMPLETELY NEXT YEAR. WAY HAS MADE STRONG APPEAL TO UN FOR FUNDS TO MAKE UP FOR THIS DEFICIT AND HAS ALREADY REPLACED TWENTY PERCENT OF CUT, WITH POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER TWENTY PERCENT TO BE DECIDED. MEANWHILE, DEPARTMENT URGING US YOUTH COUNCIL TO MAKE UP ITS TWO-YEAR ARREARAGE IN DUES TO WAY, WHICH MAY ALSO MAKE SOME CONTRIBUTION TO ENHANCE FINANCIAL VIABILITY.

8. WAY'S FUTURE. CARRASCO AGREED THAT STRUCTURAL CHANGES TOWARDS DECENTRALIZATION, DEMOCRATIZATION AND BETTER COM-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MUNICATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP, NEEDED TO ENSURE GREATER DEGREE OF SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY FROM CENYC. ROBERTSHAW EXPRESSED VIEW THAT WAY ACTION-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING IS STRONG, IN CONTRAST TO CENYC AND COMMUNIST WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH (WFDY) WHICH OFFER VIRTUALLY NO PROGRAMS OTHER THAN TALK. CARRASCO ASKED FOR USG SUPPORT OF PROPOSED WAY ENVIRONMENT PROJECT CURRENTLY BEFORE UN. CARRASCO ALSO RAISED POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT VISIT FRG TO DISCUSS WAY FUTURE WITH DNK LEADERS. RUSH

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